

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending and have been examined in the present application. Claims 1-6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Janus, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,829,198). Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in light of the below remarks.

As an initial matter, Applicant notes that in the response to the previous Office Action mistakenly indicated that claim 1 was ‘currently amended.’ In fact, claim 1 was not amended in Applicant’s previous response, in which claim 1 should have been designated as ‘original.’

Independent claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Janus. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1 explicitly requires “transmission holes through which the sound wave signals converted from the electrical signals by said external speaker are transmitted to said portable terminal device, said transmission holes being formed in said first connector and said external speaker.” Applicant respectfully submits that this feature of the claimed invention is neither taught nor suggested by Janus.

On page 3 of the Office Action, it is argued that element 24a in Figure 4 of Janus corresponds to the transmission holes recited in claim 1. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Threaded hole 24a is not a transmission hole “through which the sound signal is converted from the electrical signals by said external speaker are transmitted to said portable terminal device,” as explicitly required by claim 1. In fact, threaded hole 24a is

neither designed to, nor capable of, transmitting any sound waves because it is plugged by the threaded portion 18a of electrical connector 18. (See Janus Fig. 3)

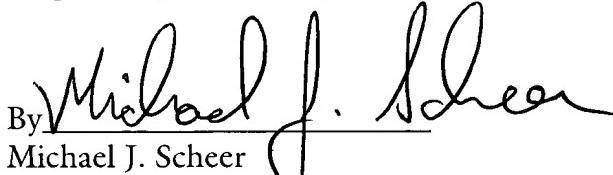
In other words, Janus does not teach or suggest the present invention because element 24a in Figure 4 of Janus is not a transmission hole “through which the sound signal is converted from the electrical signals by said external speaker are transmitted to said portable terminal device,” as explicitly required by claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection of independent claim 1 on the basis of Janus is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 2-6 are dependent on and include all of the limitations of base claim 1. Therefore, all of the above arguments regarding independent claim 1 apply equally to dependent claims 2-6. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claims 2-6 on the basis of Janus is therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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